

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **SPECIAL PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

**T**he BOC administered three state-funded special program initiatives during this biennial reporting period: 1) Juvenile Crime Enforcement and Accountability Challenge Grant Program; 2) Juvenile Repeat Offender Prevention Project; and 3) Victim Notification Program. These programs demonstrate unique and innovative local approaches to reduce crime and prevent delinquency, and provide critical information to crime victims when perpetrators are released from custody.

#### **Juvenile Crime Enforcement and Accountability Challenge Grant Program**

**I**n FY 1996/97, the Legislature created the Juvenile Crime Enforcement and Accountability Challenge Grant Program (Challenge Grant). There is widespread support among state and local policymakers for this \$50 million demonstration program, which is designed to identify effective approaches to reducing crime and delinquency.

The BOC awarded planning grants totaling over \$1.7 million to the 52 counties requesting funds to develop a local action plan (LAP) showing how unique county-based efforts could reduce juvenile crime through prevention, intervention, diversion, suppression and incapacitation. In FY 1996/97, these counties established local multi-agency juvenile justice coordinating councils (chaired by chief probation officers) and completed their LAPs.

The BOC requested proposals for grants to implement Challenge Grant demonstration programs. Fifty-one of California's 58 counties submitted proposals requesting over \$137 million (of an available \$45.7 million). The BOC formed an executive steering committee comprised of a county supervisor, former chief probation officer, state corrections officials, and other experts who reviewed proposals and developed funding recommendations based on evaluation criteria specified by the Legislature including:

- ✓ size of high-risk youth population;
- ✓ likelihood of program continuation after state funding ends;
- ✓ ability to implement a collaborative plan to reduce juvenile crime and delinquency; and
- ✓ ability to provide a continuum of responses to juvenile crime (prevention, intervention, diversion, suppression and incapacitation).

Following a highly competitive proposal evaluation process, the BOC awarded \$45.7 million in three-year grants to 14 counties which are now under contract to implement 29 community-based demonstration programs. Figure 9 lists these counties and their grant funding.

Challenge Grant programs span a broad range of interventions, including truancy prevention, parent accountability, early offender intervention, restorative justice, and school-based services. Appendix G provides a description of each of the Challenge Grant demonstration projects. Counties must use grants to supplement, not supplant, local programs, and must provide a 25 percent match (cash or in-kind).

In the 1998/99 State budget, the Legislature appropriated \$60 million in additional funds for the Challenge Grant Program. BOC's next biennial legislative report will include the allocation of these funds.

**Figure 9**

**CHALLENGE GRANT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS  
COUNTIES RECEIVING STATE GRANTS THROUGH FY 1997/98**

<b>County</b>	<b>Grant Funding (Three Years)</b>
<b>Alameda</b>	<b>\$5,400,000</b>
<b>Contra Costa</b>	<b>1,462,776</b>
<b>Humboldt</b>	<b>1,468,866</b>
<b>Orange</b>	<b>2,962,777</b>
<b>Sacramento</b>	<b>3,802,414</b>
<b>San Bernardino</b>	<b>4,242,894</b>
<b>San Diego</b>	<b>4,956,578</b>
<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>5,407,983</b>
<b>San Joaquin</b>	<b>1,607,933</b>
<b>Santa Barbara</b>	<b>4,800,432</b>
<b>Santa Clara</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>
<b>Stanislaus</b>	<b>1,434,466</b>
<b>Tehama</b>	<b>808,797</b>
<b>Ventura</b>	<b>4,527,100</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 45,700,000</b>

All 29 demonstration programs are now operational. The BOC, in cooperation with the funded counties, developed a formal program evaluation design. Counties have hired outside evaluators, or are using county evaluators, to assess program effectiveness. In addition to unique local measures of effectiveness, the BOC is collecting data from all counties on a variety of common outcome measures to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Challenge Grant program. This statewide evaluation will include three outcome measures required by the Legislature: 1) juvenile arrests per 100,000 of population; 2) successful completion of probation; and 3) successful completion of victim restitution and/or court-ordered community service work.

BOC staff provides project oversight and technical assistance as needed to each county program, and participates with local program staff and evaluators in quarterly project meetings. The BOC must submit an interim report to the Legislature by March 1, 1999, and a final report that includes evaluation results of each program by March 1, 2001.

## **Juvenile Repeat Offender Prevention Project**

In FY 1996/97, the Legislature established the Repeat Offender Prevention Project (ROPP). The enabling legislation named seven counties to receive state grants for three-year pilot projects targeting youth who display behavior that may lead to delinquency and recidivism. The counties are Fresno, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Mateo, and Solano.

ROPP targets two groups: "at-risk youth" as identified in Los Angeles by the Multi-Agency At-Risk Youth Committee and the "8 percent population" as identified by Orange County research as the group of first-time offenders having the greatest potential of becoming chronic, repeat offenders. Appendix H provides a description of ROPP programs. While each county designed its program to meet unique needs, all ROPP programs include the following major components:

- ✓ youth and family focus;
- ✓ multi-disciplinary team assessment;
- ✓ formal case and service planning; and
- ✓ "wraparound" approach of integrated service delivery.

In FY 1996/97, the BOC finalized contracts with all seven counties. The 1997/98 state budget allocated supplemental grant funds to these counties. Figure 10 shows total state funding to each county through FY 1997/98. The 1998/99 state budget appropriated an additional \$3.8 million to support the ROPP, and added the city and county of San Francisco as a participant. The BOC will report allocation of these new funds in the next biennial legislative report.

**Figure 10**

### **REPEAT OFFENDER PREVENTION PROJECT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS GRANT FUNDING**

County	FY 1996/97	FY 1997/98	Total
Fresno	\$400,000	\$410,605	\$810,605
Humboldt	\$400,000	\$408,405	\$808,405
Los Angeles	\$662,500	\$645,287	\$1,307,787
Orange	\$662,500	\$667,488	\$1,329,988
San Diego	\$400,000	\$405,205	\$805,205
San Mateo	\$400,000	\$406,505	\$806,505

<b>Solano</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$406,505</b>	<b>\$806,505</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,325,000</b>	<b>\$3,350,000</b>	<b>\$6,675,000</b>

Each county must conduct a formal program evaluation that compares eligible juveniles who receive program services (treatment group) to a like group of juveniles who receive standard probation services (comparison group). In addition to unique local measures of effectiveness, all programs are reporting common outcome measures (some required by the Legislature) to the BOC. These include: juvenile arrests; successful completion of probation, victim restitution and/or community service work; subsequent petitions to declare the minor a ward of the juvenile court pursuant to Section 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, including the alleged offense and its disposition; time served in local or state correctional facilities; days of school attendance; and grade point average.

As with the Challenge Grant program, BOC staff provides project oversight and needed technical assistance to county ROPP programs. BOC staff also participates with local program staff and evaluators in quarterly project meetings. As required, the BOC is submitting annual status reports to the Legislature and will submit a final report that includes evaluation results of each program by December 31, 2001.

## **Victim Notification Program**

In FY 1996/97, the Legislature established the Victim Notification Program (VNP), a pilot program designed to implement and test procedures for notifying victims of crime (if requested) of the release of perpetrators or defendants from a local detention facility. The 1996/97 State budget appropriated \$100,000 to the BOC to administer the program and distribute grants to counties on a competitive basis for the development and implementation of VNPs.

The BOC requested proposals from counties and cities and formed a task force to evaluate each proposal. Six jurisdictions submitted proposals. In FY 1996/97, the BOC awarded grants to Kings, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties for projects during the grant period of July 1, 1997 through February 28, 1998.

Figure 11 lists grant awards, along with the number of victims notified of defendants released during the grant period. Reported reasons for victims not being notified were that they changed their address or telephone number without notifying the VNP, or that they did not confirm telephone contact with the correct personal identification number.

**Figure 11**

### **VICTIM NOTIFICATION PROGRAMS**

<b>County</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Total Victims Requesting Notification*</b>	<b>Total Victims Notified*</b>	<b>Percent Of Victims Notified*</b>
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<b>Kings</b>	<b>\$33,000</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>87 percent</b>
<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>33,333</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>72 percent</b>
<b>San Mateo</b>	<b>32,625</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>99 percent</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$98,958</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>96 percent</b>

\*Victim numbers related only to defendants that were released during the grant period.

BOC staff provided program oversight, monitoring and technical assistance, including developing and negotiating grant contracts, and verifying compliance with program and fiscal requirements. As required, the three grant counties evaluated program performance and submitted specified data to the BOC by April 15, 1998. All three programs were successfully implemented and completed. In May 1998, the BOC prepared a final program report at the request of Senator Ray Haynes, who authored the enabling legislation. A copy of the final program report containing detailed information on each of the programs is available on the BOC web site or upon request to the BOC.